To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1918 without my signature.

This bill would require school districts to provide additional disability compensation benefits to school employees, without requiring employees to contribute for the cost of those benefits. These benefits are currently subject to collective bargaining and are appropriately determined at the local level. Requiring all districts to provide this benefit could increase benefit costs and may not be of the highest priority for districts or their employees.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill, but would encourage school districts to work with their collective bargaining representatives to determine the need for this benefit.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger